

A P P E N D I X I:

THE LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (canceled)
2. (canceled)
3. (canceled)
4. (canceled)
5. (canceled)
7. (currently amended) A process for preparing N-phosphonomethylglycine or a salt thereof by bringing phosphonomethyliminodiacetic acid or a salt thereof into contact with at least one oxygen-containing oxidant in the presence of a heterogeneous catalyst comprising at least one silicate, excluding carbon catalysts with the proviso that the process is not an oxidative cleavage of N-phosphonomethyliminodiacetic acid with simultaneous oxidation of formaldehyde formed as by-product in the presence of a catalyst system which comprises activated carbon together with a microporous acid-resistant aluminosilicate having a ratio of Si to Al of at least 2 as support and a noble metal as active component.
8. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 7, wherein the oxygen-containing oxidant or oxidants is/are selected from the group consisting of hydroperoxides, gases containing molecular oxygen, oxygen-donating compounds, nitrogen oxides and mixtures of two or more thereof.
9. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 7, wherein the silicate or silicates is/are selected from the group consisting of zeolites, sheet silicates, naturally occurring or synthetically produced clay minerals, clathrasils and mixtures of two or more thereof.
10. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 8, wherein the silicate or silicates is/are selected from the group consisting of zeolites, sheet silicates, naturally occurring or synthetically produced clay minerals, clathrasils and mixtures of two or more thereof.
11. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 7, wherein the crystalline dilicate or silicates is/are selected from the group

consisting of zeolite structure-types having framework type codes ABW, ACO, AEI, AEL, AEN, AET, AFG, AFI, AFN, AFO, AFR, AFS, AFT, AFX, AFY, AHT, ANA, APC, APD, AST, ATN, ATO, ATS, ATT, ATV, AWO, AWW, BEA, BIK, BOG, BPH, BRE, CAN, CAS, CFI, CGF, CGS, CHA, CHI, CLO, CON, CZP, DAC, DDR, DFO, DFT, DOH, DON, EAB, EDI, EMT, EPI, ERI, ESV, EUO, FAU, FER, GIS, GME, GOO, HEU, IFR, ISV, ITE, JBW, KFI, LAU, LEV, LIO, LOS, LOV, LTA, LTL, LTN, MAZ, MEI, MEL, MEP, MER, MFI, MFS, MON, MOR, MSO, MTF, MTN, MTT, MTW, MWW, NAT, NES, NON, OFF, OSI, PAR, PAU, PHI, RHO, RON, RSN, ~~TRE, TH~~, RTE, RTH, RUT, SAO, SAT, SBE, SBS, SBT, SFF, SGT, SOD, STF, STI, STT, TER, THO, TON, TSC, VET, VFI, VNI, VSV, WEI, WEN, YUG, ~~ZON AND~~ and ZON, and mixtures of two or more thereof.

12. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 8, wherein the crystalline dilicate or silicates is/are selected from the group consisting of zeolite-structure types having framework type codes ABW, ACO, AEI, AEL, AEN, AET, AFG, AFI, AFN, AFO, AFR, AFS, AFT, AFX, AFY, AHT, ANA, APC, APD, AST, ATN, ATO, ATS, ATT, ATV, AWO, AWW, BEA, BIK, BOG, BPH, BRE, CAN, CAS, CFI, CGF, CGS, CHA, CHI, CLO, CON, CZP, DAC, DDR, DFO, DFT, DOH, DON, EAB, EDI, EMT, EPI, ERI, ESV, EUO, FAU, FER, GIS, GME, GOO, HEU, IFR, ISV, ITE, JBW, KFI, LAU, LEV, LIO, LOS, LOV, LTA, LTL, LTN, MAZ, MEI, MEL, MEP, MER, MFI, MFS, MON, MOR, MSO, MTF, MTN, MTT, MTW, MWW, NAT, NES, NON, OFF, OSI, PAR, PAU, PHI, RHO, RON, RSN, ~~TRE, TH~~, RTE, RTH, RUT, SAO, SAT, SBE, SBS, SBT, SFF, SGT, SOD, STF, STI, STT, TER, THO, TON, TSC, VET, VFI, VNI, VSV, WEI, WEN, YUG, ~~ZON AND~~ and ZON, and mixtures of two or more thereof.

13. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 9, wherein the crystalline dilicate or silicates is/are selected from the group consisting of zeolite-structure types having framework type codes ABW, ACO, AEI, AEL, AEN, AET, AFG, AFI, AFN, AFO, AFR, AFS, AFT, AFX, AFY, AHT, ANA, APC, APD, AST, ATN, ATO, ATS, ATT, ATV, AWO, AWW, BEA, BIK, BOG, BPH, BRE, CAN, CAS, CFI, CGF, CGS, CHA, CHI, CLO, CON, CZP, DAC, DDR, DFO, DFT, DOH, DON, EAB, EDI, EMT, EPI, ERI, ESV, EUO, FAU, FER, GIS, GME, GOO, HEU, IFR, ISV, ITE, JBW, KFI, LAU, LEV, LIO, LOS, LOV, LTA, LTL, LTN, MAZ, MEI, MEL, MEP, MER, MFI, MFS, MON, MOR, MSO, MTF, MTN, MTT, MTW, MWW, NAT, NES, NON, OFF, OSI, PAR, PAU, PHI, RHO, RON, RSN, ~~TRE, TH~~, RTE, RTH, RUT, SAO, SAT, SBE, SBS, SBT, SFF, SGT, SOD, STF, STI, STT, TER, THO, TON, TSC, VET, VFI, VNI, VSV, WEI, WEN, YUG, ~~ZON AND~~ and ZON, and mixtures of two or more thereof.

14. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 10, wherein the crystalline dilicate or silicates is/are selected from the group consisting of zeolite-structure types having framework type codes ABW, ACO, AEI, AEL, AEN, AET, AFG, AFI, AFN, AFO, AFR, AFS, AFT, AFX, AFY, AHT, ANA, APC, APD, AST, ATN, ATO, ATS, ATT, ATV, AWO, AWW, BEA, BIK, BOG, BPH, BRE, CAN, CAS, CFI, CGF, CGS, CHA, CHI, CLO, CON, CZP, DAC, DDR, DFO, DFT, DOH, DON, EAB, EDI, EMT, EPI, ERI, ESV, EUO, FAU, FER, GIS, GME, GOO, HEU, IFR, ISV, ITE, JBW, KFI, LAU, LEV, LIO, LOS, LOV, LTA, LTL, LTN, MAZ, MEI, MEL, MEP, MER, MFI, MFS, MON, MOR, MSO, MTF, MTN, MTT, MTW, MWW, NAT, NES, NON, OFF, OSI, PAR, PAU, PHI, RHO, RON, RSN, ~~TRE, TH,~~ RTE, RTH, RUT, SAO, SAT, SBE, SBS, SBT, SFF, SGT, SOD, STF, STI, STT, TER, THO, TON, TSC, VET, VFI, VNI, VSV, WEI, WEN, YUG, ~~ZON AND~~ and ZON, and mixtures of two or more thereof.
15. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 7, wherein the at least one heterogeneous catalyst further comprises at least one element selected from among the elements of groups Ia, IIa, IIIa, IVa, Va, VIa, VIIa, VIIIa, Ib, IIb, IIIb, IVb, Vb, VIb, VIIb of the Periodic Table.
16. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 8, wherein the at least one heterogeneous catalyst further comprises at least one element selected from among the elements of groups Ia, IIa, IIIa, IVa, Va, VIa, VIIa, VIIIa, Ib, IIb, IIIb, IVb, Vb, VIb, VIIb of the Periodic Table.
17. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 9, wherein the at least one heterogeneous catalyst further comprises at least one element selected from among the elements of groups Ia, IIa, IIIa, IVa, Va, VIa, VIIa, VIIIa, Ib, IIb, IIIb, IVb, Vb, VIb, VIIb of the Periodic Table.
18. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 10, wherein the at least one heterogeneous catalyst further comprises at least one element selected from among the elements of groups Ia, IIa, IIIa, IVa, Va, VIa, VIIa, VIIIa, Ib, IIb, IIIb, IVb, Vb, VIb, VIIb of the Periodic Table.
19. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 11, wherein the at least one heterogeneous catalyst further comprises at least one element selected from among the elements of groups Ia, IIa,

IIIA, IVa, Va, VIA, VIIa, VIIIA, Ib, IIb, IIIb, IVb, Vb, VIb, VIIb of the Periodic Table.

20. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 7, wherein the heterogeneous catalyst is regenerated after complete or partial loss of activity and the regenerated heterogenous catalyst is reused for preparing N-phosphonomethylglycine or a salt thereof from phosphonomethyliminodiacetic acid or a salt thereof.
21. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 8, wherein the heterogeneous catalyst is regenerated after complete or partial loss of activity and the regenerated heterogeneous catalyst is reused for preparing N-phosphonomethylglycine or a salt thereof from phosphonomethyliminodiacetic acid or a salt thereof.
22. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 9, wherein the heterogeneous catalyst is regenerated after complete or partial loss of activity and the regenerated heterogeneous catalyst is reused for preparing N-phosphonomethylglycine or a salt thereof from phosphonomethyliminodiacetic acid or a salt thereof.
23. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 10, wherein the heterogeneous catalyst is regenerated after complete or partial loss of activity and the regenerated heterogeneous catalyst is reused for preparing N-phosphonomethylglycine or a salt thereof from phosphonomethyliminodiacetic acid or a salt thereof.
24. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 11, wherein the heterogeneous catalyst is regenerated after complete or partial loss of activity and the regenerated heterogeneous catalyst is reused for preparing N-phosphonomethylglycine or a salt thereof from phosphonomethyliminodiacetic acid or a salt thereof.
25. (currently amended) A process for preparing N-phosphonomethylglycine or a salt thereof by bringing phosphonomethyliminodiacetic acid or a salt thereof into contact with at least one oxygen-containing oxidant selected from a group consisting of hydroperoxides, gases containing molecular oxygen, oxygen-donating compounds, nitrogen oxides and mixtures of two or more thereof; in the presence of a heterogeneous catalyst, ~~excluding carbon catalysts~~, comprising at least one silicate selected from the group consisting of zeolites, sheet silicates, naturally occurring or synthetically produced clay minerals, clathrasils and mixtures of two or more thereof, with the proviso that the process is not an

oxidative cleavage of N-phosphonomethyliminodiacetic acid with simultaneous oxidation of formaldehyde formed as by-product in the presence of a catalyst system which comprises activated carbon together with a microporous acid-resistant aluminosilicate having a ratio of Si to Al of at least 2 as support and a noble metal as active component.

26. (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 25, wherein the zeolites are selected from the group consisting of zeolites of the structure types having framework type codes ABW, ACO, AEI, AEL, AEN, AET, AFG, AFI, AFN, AFO, AFR, AFS, AFT, AFX, AFY, AHT, ANA, APC, APD, AST, ATN, ATO, ATS, ATT, ATV, AWO, AWW, BEA, BIK, BOG, BPH, BRE, CAN, CAS, CFI, CGF, CGS, CHA, CHI, CLO, CON, CZP, DAC, DDR, DFO, DFT, DOH, DON, EAB, EDI, EMT, EPI, ERI, ESV, EUO, FAU, FER, GIS, GME, GOO, HEU, IFR, ISV, ITE, JBW, KFI, LAU, LEV, LIO, LOS, LOV, LTA, LTL, LTN, MAZ, MEI, MEL, MEP, MER, MFI, MFS, MON, MOR, MSO, MTF, MTN, MTT, MTW, MWW, NAT, NES, NON, OFF, OSI, PAR, PAU, PHI, RHO, RON, RSN, ~~TRE, TH~~, RTE, RTH, RUT, SAO, SAT, SBE, SBS, SBT, SFF, SGT, SOD, STF, STI, STT, TER, THO, TON, TSC, VET, VFI, VNI, VSV, WEI, WEN, YUG, ~~ZON AND~~ and ZON, and mixtures of two or more thereof.
27. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 25 wherein the at least one heterogeneous catalyst further comprises at least one element selected from among the elements of groups Ia, IIa, IIIa, IVa, Va, VIa, VIIa, VIIIa, Ib, IIb, IIIb, IVb, Vb, Vab, VIIb of the Periodic Table.
28. (previously presented) A process as claimed in claim 25, wherein the heterogeneous catalyst is regenerated after complete or partial loss of activity and the regenerated heterogeneous catalyst is reused for preparing N-phosphonomethylglycine or a salt thereof from phosphonomethyliminodiacetic acid or a salt thereof.